



CALPEEK

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CAMPAIGN 2004: U.S. SEN. BOXER LEADING HER REPUBLICAN PARTY RIVALS IN NEW FIELD POLL.

Editor's note: Early polls often don't mean that much and certainly this newest Field Poll on Calif.'s U.S. Senate race next year is a case in point. A year from now the political situation in Calif. may be totally different. Here's our update & analysis...

...U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer(D-CA) is easily the #1 target of the Republican Nat'l Senatorial Cmt. But that doesn't mean she'll be easy to beat. On the other hand, the newest Field Poll (695 voters, April 1-6, RDD) shows only 38% of registered voters are inclined to support her reelection next year vs. 43% are not inclined to vote for her, while 19% offered no opinion. Boxer is even losing 20% of her Demo base – and that's not good news. Could things get worse? Yes, if Calif.'s Green Party puts up a candidate...

...Regardless, when matched against 6 potential GOP rivals, Boxer defeats all of them. The GOP crowd in the new Field Poll includes former Gov. Pete Wilson; Bill Simon Jr.; U.S. Reps. Doug Ose, Darrell Issa and George Radanovich; and U.S. Treas. Rosario Marin, a former Huntington Park city councilwoman...

...In the battle to win the GOP primary, here's how the 6 rivals line up, with and without Wilson. His candidacy is being pushed by some of his ex- consultants, but *Calpeek* sources aren't sure there's really ground swell of GOP support for the former governor. His negatives remain very high – left over from Prop. 187...

	<u>w/Wilson</u>	<u>w/o Wilson</u>
Pete Wilson	30%	-
Bill Simon	24	33%
Darrell Issa	6	9
G. Radanovich	4	4
Rosario Marin	3	4
Doug Ose	3	3
Undecided	30	47

...In the one-on-one contests, it's Boxer 46% vs. Wilson

43% with 11% undecided. Against Simon, Boxer wins with 50% vs. 37% and 13% undecided. Boxer pulls 51% against both Marin and Radanovich; and she gets 49% against both Issa and Ose. The 3 GOP congressmen are in the low 30 percent range...

...Some of the stories which have been written about a potential Wilson vs. Boxer match point to two of Wilson's problems: 1) his support for Prop. 187, which eliminated govt. services for illegal immigrants; and 2) his backing of energy deregulation in 1995 – which many believe led to the State's energy crisis in 2000-01. In addition to these two hot issues, Calif.'s right wing has never trusted Wilson. The big question is whether the Bush White House really understands the depth of Calif. Latino hatred of Wilson and what impact a Wilson vs. Boxer match in 2004 might have on the GOP ticket in 2004?? Another GOP source put Wilson's potential candidacy this way: "*What we don't need is a Republican Walter Mondale.*" Ohhhhhh. Stay tuned...

ANTI-WAR PROTESTS PUT CALIF. GREEN PARTY ON MAP. WILL CALIF. DEMOS TAKE ON THE GREENS??

Editor's note: There are about 156,000 registered Green Party members in Calif. vs. 6.7 million registered Demos. However, it's very obvious from the 2002 election results that Green Party candidates made the November election a lot closer than some CA Demos would like to admit. What, if anything, are the Demos going to do about this growing Green Party problem in Calif.? Here's *Calpeek's* analysis & commentary...

...Green Party gubernatorial candidate Peter Camejo got 393,000 statewide votes – or about 5%. That's the margin Gov. Gray Davis(D) defeated GOP rival Bill Simon Jr. But it was Green Party Controller candidate Laura Wells, with her 420,000 votes, which nearly cost new Demo Controller Steve Westly his race against GOP State Sen. Tom McClintock. McC lost by only 21,000 voters...

...The spin from Demo sources is that most political insiders still view the Greens as *spoilers* and they point to Ralph Nader's 2000 presidential run. Had Nader not gotten about

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94,000 votes in Florida, Al Gore would have carried the state. CA Demo Party's spin guru Bob Mulholland says of the Greens: "They talk with their hearts, not with their heads. And most don't read newspapers so they probably don't remember that Ralph Nader was their nominee."...

...A recent *L.A. Times* story about the Greens quoted Calif. Demo Party chair Art Torres as saying Greens pose NO big threat to his party. Oh really! Thus, as far as *Calpeek* can determine, there is no CDP plan for dealing with the Greens. With the exception of Green-turned-Demo Audie Bock of Oakland, Greens have not caused big problems for Demo in the Calif. Legislature or U.S. House. The problem exists at the Statewide level – among Calif.'s liberal base voters...

...Some *Calpeek* sources don't agree with Torres' assessment and think if measures aren't taken to actively combat the Greens, U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer's reelection could be endangered. Greens don't have a problem with Boxer's domestic agenda, but didn't like her stand on the War with Iraq. Boxer voted with Pres. George W. Bush (twice). Who would the Greens nominate to challenge Boxer? Perhaps anti-war activist and 2000 U.S. Senate candidate Medea Benjamin. She would pose a threat on Boxer's left...

...The Greens are a very young political party in Calif. They have been recognized only since 1990. They seem to do better in Northern Calif. – Sonoma, Santa Cruz, Davis, Pt. Arena, Menlo Park, Fairfax and Nevada City have all had Green Party mayors. Today, Green Party mayors preside in Sebastopol and Arcata. About 20 Greens serve on city councils and school boards around the State. S.F. Bd of Supes Chair Matt Gonzalez is probably the most powerful Green in Calif. The best known Green in So. Calif. is current Santa Monica councilman Michael Feinstein...

...The reason Greens seem to have some success in running locally is that their Green Party label is missing. Good case in point: two years ago there was an open seat on the L.A. Community College Board. Insiders thought Joey Hill (aide to Demo State Sen. Kevin Murray) had a pretty good shot at winning. He ran against educator Nancy Pearlman (Green). She won. Few knew she was a Green Party member. Stay tuned...

USING A CREDIT CARD TO RENEW SUBSCRIPTION.

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CAMPAIGN 2004: TWO NEW DEMO PRESIDENTIAL POLLS IN CALIF. SHOW JOE LIEBERMAN AHEAD.

Editor's note: There are two new polls about the Demo Party's 2004 run for the White House and both show U.S. Sen. Joe Lieberman of CT out in front here in Calif. The numbers are totally based on Lieberman's good-to-excellent name ID, a result of his having been on 2000 ticket with Al Gore. Here's our update & analysis...

...The first survey was the Field Poll (292 Demos, Apr. 1-6 AND 695 total voters). The second survey was done by Moore Information, Inc. and was not commissioned by or paid for by a campaign. Bob Moore is a GOP pollster based in Portland, OR. His poll was done Apr. 15-16, among 600 voters (including 268 Demos). Moore used a voter list for his sample vs. the Field Poll which uses random digit dialing(RDD). Here are the two polls, side-by-side. Most sources still believe there are 2 tiers when it comes to polling (national polling):

	<u>Field</u>	<u>Moore</u>
Joe Lieberman	22%	19%
John Kerry	16	12
Dick Gephardt	12	7
Howard Dean	7	4
John Edwards	3	4
Carol Moseley-Braun	4	3
Al Sharpton	4	1
Bob Graham	2	1
Dennis Kucinich	1	3
None		12
Undecided	29	32

...In a match with an un-named Demo Party nominee, in the Field Poll, Pres. George W. Bush wins in Calif. by a margin of 45% to 40%, with 15% don't know. In the Moore survey, GWB is matched with Sen. Lieberman: GWB 50% vs. 37% for Lieberman, with 14% undecided. What's very interesting in the Field Poll is that Pres. Bush is holding his GOP base (85%), while picking off 15% of the Demo base. Only 5% of GOP voters are crossing over to vote for the Demo nominee...

...As one might image, lots of GOP vs. Demo spin on the Field Poll numbers. From the Calif. Republican Party, a memo says, "The most recent Field Poll declares that Pres. Bush would win Calif. if the presidential election were held today." Counter-spin from CDP political adviser Bob Mulholland: "Today's Field Poll has Bush Jr. only ahead of a Demo nominee by 45% to 40%. So comparing apples to

apples (2 Bushes and 2 Gulf Wars), Bush Sr. was in much better shape one year before the 1992 election than Bush Jr. is today.” Interesting spins...

BUDGET WARS: WORKERS COMP REFORM AND THE DAVIS RECALL TIED TOGETHER IN BUDGET CRISIS.

Editor's note: There is a very complex set of political balls which are being juggled in Sacto by both sides trying to find a fix for Calif.'s budget which is \$26-35 billion in the red. And other forces are at work which tend to complicate the already messy picture – including the possible *recall* of Gov. Gray Davis and talk that a budget deal is possible IF a fix can be found for Calif.'s troubled *workers compensation system*. As *Calpeek* went to press (Thursday 4/24), the monthly numbers from the recall were supposed to be released by CA Sec. of State Kevin Shelley. We'll update the recall next week. And all the while voters have very little confidence in Gov. Davis' or the Legislatures' ability to resolve the budget dispute – this according to a new *Field Poll*. Here's our analysis & commentary...

...A quick review first. Gov. Davis asked for cuts totaling \$12 billion – the Legislature has delivered only \$3.3 billion. Field asked voters what their *level of confidence* was in Gov. Davis to resolve the crisis: great deal of confidence 9%; some confidence 30%; not much confidence 58%; and no opinion 3%. The CA Legislatures' marks aren't much better: great deal of confidence 7%; some confidence 49%; not much confidence 42%; no opinion 2%...

...*Tax hikes*. The Field Poll shows that to resolve the red ink, 61% say taxes have to be increased. Only 31% said the deficit could be slashed without raising taxes. One tax, the *vehicle license fee* (aka the Car Tax) is now on auto-pilot and our sources say the trigger will be pulled if both side fail to reach agreement. If the trigger is pulled, it would add \$4 billion in revenue. One thing voters don't seem to like is rolling over a part of the deficit by borrowing huge sums of money. Statewide 60% are opposed vs. 26% in favor, with 14% having no opinion. It's an idea put forth by the GOP leadership and it does have support among some Demos...

...Regardless of polls, if a deal is going to be reached, our sources say there are three elements which need to be resolved: 1) a solid fix on workers' comp with a health care component; 2) more spending cuts; and 3) legislation to create a meaningful *budget reserve*. If a deal can be made, then the budget crisis will be resolved...

...In the meantime, Gov. Davis has one other problem – and it deals indirectly with workers' comp. The powerful Calif. Medical Assn. is pushing a plan requiring all businesses to

provide health insurance for their workers. What's being talked about is linking this CMA plan to workers' comp reform – to create what's called *24-7 coverage*...

...Into this call for reform comes Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson and Majority Leader Marco Firebaugh with plan to *repeal* sales & use tax breaks that go to *agri-business* (part of the 2001 budget deal) and use the money to fund *tax credits* for ag employers that provide *health insurance to their workers*. If this plan were to get to Davis' desk, he'd be in a real bind: ag interests would demand a veto (or they'd help fund the recall), while the UFW might sit out a recall election if he did veto...

...Sources say Davis has only himself to blame because in 2002 he vetoed the State's portion of matching funds for the expansion of the *Healthy Families Program*. The Feds pick up about 2/3rds of the cost. And Calif. had gotten a waiver – so the U.S. funds were there. Had he not vetoed the money, the Wesson/Firebaugh plan as well as other health care proposals would still be on the back burner gathering dust. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2004: UPDATE ON PRIMARY CAMPAIGNS

Editor's note: Here is *Part X* in our continuing series of update about CA Legislative and U.S. House primaries...

☒ *13th SD Update* – In this Demo battle to replace *term-ed out* State Sen. John Vasconcellos(D-San Jose), former Assemblywoman Elaine Alquist(D) has released some new polling data which shows her leading current Assemblyman Manny Diaz(D-San Jose) by a 40% to 25% margin, with 35% undecided. The Alquist survey was done by Fairbank, Maslin Maullin – 400 likely Demo voters/Apr. 9-10. According to the accompanying FMM memo, this initial head-to-head match used nothing more than the candidates names and ballot designation. The FMM memo claims that Alquist is even ahead of Diaz in his hometown of San Jose...

☒ *63rd AD Update* – Add three more names to the list of candidates running for Bob Dutton's safe GOP assembly seat in the Rancho Cucamonga area. As noted previously, already in the primary is former San Bernardino Co. GOP chair Elia Pirozzi, who has hired Gilliard Blanning & Wysocki to run his campaign. Also running is Bill Emmerson, a dentist and member of the powerful CA Dental Assn. PAC; Lyn Greene, associate dean of govt. relations at Riverside Community College; and a 2000 assembly candidate, Sam Stavros (he ran against Dutton and Susan Pepler and got 17.5%). Pirozzi has lots of name ID; Greene has key endorsements from BOE Member Bill Leonard, GOP Senate Leader Jim Brulte, Senators Bob Margett & Ross Johnson,

and Assemblyman Ray Haynes. Emmerson has hired consultant Jim Nygren...

☑ **33rd AD** – This is the coastal AD now represented by *termed out* Abel Maldonado(R). It's GOP turf. The top tier candidate is Cuesta Community College School Bd. Trustee Sam Blakeslee, a businessman from San Luis Obispo. He's hired consultant JohnsonClark & Associates. Blakeslee has been endorsed by SLO Co. Supes Mike Ryan & Henry Ovitt, plus Santa Barbara Co. Supes. Joe Centeno and Joni Gray; Santa Maria Mayor Larry Lavagnino; Paso Robles Mayor Frank Mecham; Pismo Beach Mayor Joe Crescione; Lompoc Mayor Dick De Wees; Guadalupe Mayor Sam Arca; Atascadero Mayor Jerry Clay Sr.; and San Luis Obispo Mayor Dave Romero. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political & otherwise, worth noting...

■ ***Unfunded U.S. Mandates Update*** – Seems that our story about the *Mother Of All Under-Funded Federal Mandates* was read by lots of folks. Now it seems here's another program that the Feds are trying to kill off: \$500 million per year spent on the SCAAP (State Criminal Alien Assistance Program). Each year the U.S. Govt. reimburses local police and law enforcement agencies for the costs of processing and incarcerating criminals who are also illegal aliens. If in fact this program is killed by the Feds, that will mean local governments will have to pick up the tab...

■ ***Issa to Invest Time & Maybe \$\$ in Davis Recall*** – In some late breaking news, U.S. Rep. Darrell Issa(R-Vista) has apparently ended his U.S. Senate bid and instead will focus on the recall effort aimed at Gov. Gray Davis. Our sources say Issa wants to run for governor. The recall drive is sputtering and Issa does have deep pockets...

■ ***Honoring Sargent Shriver*** – On Law Day, May 1st, some 600 guests will honor R. Sargent Shriver who led the War on Poverty. The event is at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, L.A. Reception 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m. Host for the dinner is the Nat'l Center on Poverty Law. Keynote speaker is former Pres. Bill Clinton. Info at Levy, Pazanti & Associates (310)201-5033 or (800)621-3256...

■ ***The Calif. COP Crunch*** – In *Calpeek's* April 14th story about homeland security, we noted that a DLC study estimated 5% of all PD officers nationwide are now on active duty with the Reserves or NG. And this causing a ***COP crunch***. While this is just an estimate, Calif. law enforcement sources say there are at least 400 muni PD

officers now on active duty with the military. This is a conservative figure and does NOT include deputy sheriffs from the 58 counties. If the deputies are added in, it's probably another 400-500 who are on active duty...

■ ***Murphy Vs. Roberts – Round II?*** – Don't know if it's going to happen, but Philip J. LaVelle of the *San Diego Union Tribune* had an interesting April 20th story about a possible rematch in 2004 between San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy (yes, no, yes I'm running for reelection) and San Diego Co. Sup. Ron Roberts. Roberts isn't shy when it comes to pointing out some of the areas he thinks Murphy needs to improve upon – such as affordable housing. Very interesting article, indeed...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

May 1	SCAG 2003 General Assembly, L.A.
May 3	So. Carolina Demo Party presidential debate.
May 3	Para Los Ninos 7 th annual Cinco de Mayo event, Petersen Automotive Museum, L.A., honoring Antonio Villaraigosa.
May 3-4	Green Party of CA General Assembly convention, SOS Building in Sacramento.
May 14-16	Regional Council of Rural Counties annual meeting, Napa Valley Marriott.

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● A sad note: Norbert A. Schlei, 73, died April 17th in L.A. He suffered a heart attack while jogging in March of 2002 and had been in a coma ever since. While an Asst. AG in the Kennedy DOJ, Schlei was the principal author of the Civic Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. He ran for Calif. SOS in 1966, but didn't make it. R.I.P...

● Santa Monica-based Palisades Media Group has named Jean Brooks as Exec. VP. She will manage PMG's new political division – specializing in political media buying...

● The CA Organization of Police & Sheriffs(COPS) has affiliated with the Communications Workers of America (CWA). The CWA has a law enforcement division known as the Nat'l Coalition of Public Safety Officers(NCPSO)...

● Congratulations to CA AG Bill Lockyer(D) and his new bride, former Santa Ana School Bd. member Nadia Maria Davis. The newly weds are expecting a baby in late summer...